

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02200 180725Z  
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 W  
-----020982 190247Z /66  
R 171541Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6022

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2200

FOR EUR/EE SCHMIDT FROM FROWICK

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OGEN  
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. DIEBOLD VISIT. AMBASSADOR BYRNE ATTENDED LUNCHEON AUGUST 16 AT HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL FOR DIEBOLD, WHO APPEARED TO BE ENJOYING HIS VISIT TO PRAGUE FOLLOWING WEEKEND JOURNEYS TO KARLOVY VARY, MARIANSKE LAZNY, AND THE HIGH TATRAS. GOC KEPT TIGHT REIN ON SCHEDULE, ALOTING LITTLE TIME ON AUGUST 17 FOR DIEBOLD TO CALL ON AMBASSADOR AT THE EMBASSY AND LEFT NO TIME FOR EMBASSY SOCIAL EVENT FOR HIM. DIEBOLD MAY SEE CHNOUPEK AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 17, AND MAY POSSIBLY GO HUNTING WITH HIM THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

2. AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT. MRS. BYRNE WAS RETURNING FROM FRG AUGUST 11 IN THE BYRNE'S PEUGEOT STATION WAGON, WHEN HER CAR WAS HIT AT BEROUN BY ANOTHER AUTOMOBILE DRIVEN BY A CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZEN. INVESTIGATING POLICE AND LOCAL BYSTANDERS ALL AGREED THAT CZECH DRIVER WAS AT FAULT, AND CZECHOSLOVAK INSURANCE COMPANY HAS AGREED TO PAY ESTIMATED 30,000 KCS FOR DAMAGES TO RIGHT FRONT OF THE PEUGEOT. WE PLAN TO HAVE THE CAR REPAIRED BY PEUGEOT DEALER IN NUERNBERG, HOWEVER, AND ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY DETERMINING WHETHER CZECHOSLOVAK INSURANCE AGENCY WILL

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PAY FOR REPAIRS DONE OUTSIDE CSSR. WOULD SOMEONE IN EE PLEASE TELEPHONE CLEMENTS & CO. (872-0060) IN WASHINGTON AND INFORM THEM OF ALL THIS. PLEASE ALSO LET US KNOW IF CLEMENTS HAS AGENT IN FRG WHO COULD ASSESS DAMAGES TO THE CAR AT AUTOHAUS MUENZEL BMGH., MAFFEIPLATZ 10 IN NUERNBERG, AFTER WE DELIVER IT THERE ON AUGUST 22. IF UNABLE TO OBTAIN COVERAGE FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK INSURANCE COMPANY,

WILL AMBASSADOR BE COVERED BY CLEMENTS? IN SUCH CASE, PLEASE ARRANGE TO HAVE CLEMENTS' FRG REP PROVIDE AMBASSADOR WITH AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH REPAIRS.

3. NEW DOYEN TO BE NORTH KOREAN. AFTER THE DEPARTURE IN SEPTEMBER OF LEBANESE AMBASSADOR RIACHIN CURRENT DEAN OF THE LOCAL DIPLOMATIC CORPS, THE NEW DEAN WILL BE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR RI WON BOM. WHILE EMBASSY ROUTINELY REQUIRES ONLY INFREQUENT CONTACT WITH THE DEAN, WE DO HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE TO FAREWELL GIFTS AND ATTEND TO OTHER SIMILARLY UNAVOIDABLE PROTOCOLARY MATTERS. WE WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE WHATEVER GUIDANCE OFFICE OF PROTOCOL MAY WISH TO PROVIDE ON HOW WE SHOULD COPE WITH THIS SITUATION.

4. VISIT OF HOUSTON DOCTOR. DR. FRANKLIN J. HARBERG, OUTSTANDING PEDIATRIC SURGEON IN HOUSTON, PLANS TO ATTEND AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON PEDIATRICS IN PRAGUE FROM SEPTEMBER 26 TO 30. ANN AND I WOULD LIKE TO ORGANIZE EITHER A DINNER OR RECEPTION FOR HARBERG AND, THUS, WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOMEONE CALL HIM ON (713) -795-4955 TO SEE IF HE IS AMENABLE. ALSO, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY HIM?

5. CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE ON 1968 INVASION. WE HAVE ALREADY SENT YOU EMBASSY SUGGESTION RE POSSIBLE REPRESSION OF DISSIDENTS (PRAGUE 2169, AUGUST 16). AS FOR PRESS STATEMENT ON ANNIVER-  
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SARY OF THE INVASION, WE HAVE BEEN GROPING FOR A SATISFACTORY FORMULATION AND HAVE JUST AGREED ON ONE WHICH WILL BE DISPATCHED FORTHWITH. YOU WILL HAVE IT BY AUGUST 18.

6. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED YOUR O.I. IN STATE 208608. SUFFICE TO SAY THAT I HAVE CHECKED WITH THE CONSULAR SECTION AND FOUND THAT PRAGUE 2150, WHICH I HAD THOUGHT WAS SENT ON AUGUST 11 WAS NOT, IN FACT, TRANSMITTED UNTIL AUGUST 14. WE REGRET THIS DELAY AND WILL TRY TO AVOID RECURRENCES.  
BYRNE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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